

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendments

The claim set is modified in the amendment. More specifically, claims 25-35 and 40-42 are canceled and new claims 43-68 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-5, 21-24, 36-39, and 43-68 are present for examination. No new matter is added by these amendments. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Prior Election/Restriction Status

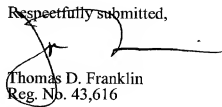
Applicants are somewhat confused as to the state of the restrictions on the present case. Before the present amendment, there are four distinct groups of claims as identified by the Office. Specifically, Claims 1-5, 21-24 and 36-39 are the claims under current consideration before entry of this amendment; claims 6-10 were previously identified as distinct and are now cancelled prior to their examination; claims 11-20 were previously identified as distinct and are now cancelled prior to their examination; and, claims 25-35 and 40-42 were previously identified as distinct and are now cancelled prior to their examination.

New Claim Restriction Suggestion

Applicant has added several different claim groups in the above amendment that would pose significant burden on the Office should they be examined in the current case. Specifically, claims 43-49, 50-52, 53-59, and 60-68 are four separate groups of claims. Should the Office agree with this proposition, a Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested specifying these four groups as being distinct. Divisional applications could be used to pursue the separate claim groups and expand the claim sets in those separate applications.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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